

Message Text

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UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 02 OTTAWA 00310

STATE PASS VICE PRESIDENT'S OFFICE (MAXINE BURNS)
USIA FOR IEU, IOP/G

E.O. 11652 N/A
TAGS: OVIP (MONDALE, WALTER)
SUBJ.: MEDIA REACTION MONDALE VISIT

1. CBC RADIO NETWORK JANUARY 18/19 REPORTED MONDALE VISIT TO EDMONTON FEATURING HIGHLIGHTS OF SPEECH AND STRESSING MONDALE'S DESCRIPTION THAT HIS PURPOSE IN COMING TO CANADA WAS TO DISCUSS RATHER THAN TO NEGOTIATE. THE REPORT MADE CLEAR THAT WASHINGTON AND OTTAWA WOULD HAVE TO NEGOTIATE TARIFF CONCESSIONS ON BEEF AND PETRO CHEMICALS WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE MTN AND CURRENT GATT TALKS IN GENEVA. THE CBC RADIO REPORT CONCLUDED THAT THUS THERE WAS LITTLE PROGRESS FROM THE AMERICAN SIDE TOWARD ARRANGING AN INCREASED SUPPLY OF NATURAL GAS FOR THE STATES BECAUSE THE PROVINCE OF ALBERTA WHICH CONTROLS THE SUPPLY OF GAS OUTFLOW WAS INSISTING ON SOME RECIPROCAL TARIFF CUTS.

2. A. THE REPORT ON BUSINESS SECTION OF THE TORONTO GLOBE AND MAIL CONTAINED A FRONT PAGE ARTICLE ON THE VICE PRESIDENT'S ALBERTA VISIT UNDER THE HEADLINE "U.S. GETS UNCLASSIFIED

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TENTATIVE ALBERTA GAS DELIVERY DEAL." THIS ARTICLE FOLLOWED THE PRESENTATION MADE BY PREMIER LOUGHEED AND VICE PRESIDENT MONDALE IN THEIR EDMONTON PRESS CONFERENCE. THE CLEAR IMPRESSION LEFT BY THIS ARTICLE WAS THAT IN THE VICE PRESIDENT'S WORDS ANY TRADE ARRANGEMENT BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES WOULD REFLECT "A BLEND OF PUBLIC DESIRES AND PRIVATE INITIATIVES."

B. UNDERNEATH ARTICLE FROM EDMONTON THE GLOBE AND MAIL BUSINESS SECTION CARRIED A SPECIAL SHORT STORY THAT SUGGESTED THE SWAP BACK OPTION ANNOUNCED BY THE VICE PRESIDENT WOULD PROBABLY BE THE FIRST STEP IN A COMMERCIAL EXCHANGE OF MORE CANADIAN GAS FROM ALBERTA ON A SHORT TERM BASIS WITH REPLACEMENT OF THIS GAS PROVIDED BY THE U.S. FROM ALASKAN GAS ONCE PIPELINE IS CONSTRUCTED. THIS ARTICLE WAS SOURCED TO FEDERAL OFFICIAL IN OTTAWA.

C. IN HIS DAILY COLUMN, GLOBE AND MAIL POLITICAL ANALYST GEOFFREY STEVENS QUOTED A SENTENCE FROM MR MONDALE'S PRESS CONFERENCE PRAISING PRIME MINISTER TRUDEAU AND THEN SAID "THANK YOU, MR VICE-PRESIDENT. THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR YOUR KIND ENDORSEMENT OF OUR PRIME MINISTER. TRUE, THERE MAY BE SOME CHURLS - THE NAMES OF JOE CLARK AND ED BROADBENT COME TO MIND - WHO PROBABLY WONDER WHY YOU FOUND IT NECESSARY TO STRAY FROM THE COMFORTABLE PLATITUDES OF DIPLOMACY ONTO THE SHOALS OF POLITICAL PARTISANSHIP, BUT IGNORE THEM, SIR. IF THEY'RE SORE, IT'S ONLY BECAUSE, YOU SEE, THIS COUNTRY IS ON THE SLIPPERY SLOPE TO AN ELECTION. YES, YOUR PAL, PIERRE TRUDEAU, HAS, IN FACT, DROPPED A HINT HERE AND THERE HE IS THINKING OF SEEKING RE-ELECTION AS A GREAT LEADER. I THOUGHT YOU'D BE PLEASED." THE REST OF THE COLUMN IS DEVOTED TO A DISCUSSION OF DOMESTIC CANADIAN UNCLASSIFIED

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POLITICS WITH OCCASIONAL REFERENCES TO MR MONDALE.

D) THE EDITORIAL PAGE CARTOON SHOWED TRUDEAU IN A MEETING WITH HIS CABINET MINISTERS DIZZIED BY THE PRAISE OF MR MONDALE, WITH THE CAPTION "THAT MONDALE SURE CAN SWEET TALK."

3. CBC NATIONAL TELEVISION NEWS JANUARY 18 COVERED THE MONDALE TRIP TO EDMONTON AS THE SECOND LEAD ITEM. A REPORT FEATURED PHOTOGRAPHS OF MONDALE'S ARRIVAL PLUS CLIPS FROM HIS LUNCHEON SPEECH AND HIS MEETING WITH PREMIER LOUGHEED. THE CBC REPORT WAS BALANCED AND FOCUSSED ON THE ENERGY ISSUE.

4. CTV EVENING NEWS ALSO FOCUSSED ON THE LUNCHEON SPEECH BUT UNFORTUNATELY, BECAUSE THE CTV CORRESPONDENT WAS ON THE VICE PRESIDENT'S PLANE, HE HAD TO TAPE THE EVENING NEWS PRESENTATION BEFORE THE LOUGHEED-MONDALE PRESS CONFERENCE. THEREFORE HIS ANALYSIS DID NOT HAVE THE ADVANTAGE OF THE PRESS CONFERENCE REMARKS.

5. OTTAWA JOURNAL JANUARY 19 CARRIED SET OF ARTICLES

FOCUSSING ON FEDERAL VIEW POINT OF MONDALE VISIT
INCLUDING ALBERTA STOP. INSIDE ARTICLE TITLED "PROVINCES
GET QUALIFIED 'YES' TO TRADE PACTS" FOCUSED ON PRIME
MINISTER TRUDEAU'S VIEWS OF THE MONDALE MEETING WITH
PREMIER LOUGHEED. IN SEPARATE ARTICLE, THE JOURNAL'S
WASHINGTON CORRESPONDENT DESCRIBED PROSPECTS AS GOOD FOR
U.S. CONGRESSIONAL ACTION ON THE MONDALE PROPOSAL TO EASE
U.S. CONVENTION TAXES REGULATION. THE NEXT PAGE CARRIED
ARTICLE: "STORAGE STUDY KEY TO SWAP" DESCRIBING THE
MONDALE PROPOSAL FOR SHARED U.S.-CANADIAN ENERGY STORAGE
FACILITIES IN THE MARITIME PROVINCES.

6. SYNDICATED COLUMNIST RICHARD GWYN IN A COLUMN "ONCE WE
FAWNED UPON BRITAIN BUT NOW WE FAWN UPON U.S." VIEWED
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THE MONDALE VISIT EVENTS AS REFLECTING A PSYCHOLOGICAL
DEPENDENCE WHICH CANADA HAS ON THE U.S. GWYN INTERPRETS
CANADIAN REACTION TO THE VISIT AS SYMPTOMATIC OF THIS
PSYCHOLOGICAL STATE OF THE NATION. "CANADIANS, PERHAPS,
ARE BEGINNING TO FAWN UPON THE U.S. AS WE ONCE FAWNED
UPON BRITAIN, AND FOR THE SAME DEBILITATING CAUSE -
BECAUSE SKEPTICAL ABOUT OUR OWN ABILITIES, WE SEEM TO BE
ATTACHING OURSELVES INSTINCTIVELY TO AN EXTERNAL SOURCE
OF SELF CONFIDENT POWER AND DYNAMIC ENERGY."

7. THE OTTAWA CITIZEN CARRIED A SMALL INSIDE PAGE STORY FROM THE CANADIAN PRESS CAPTIONED "MONDALE HAPPY WITH TOUR RESULTS". THE STORY FOCUSSED ON FEW REMARKS MADE BY BOTH THE VICE PRESIDENT AND THE PREMIER IN ALBERTA PRESS CONFERENCE. CITIZEN ALSO RAN VERY LARGE PICTURE OF MRS MONDALE WITH MRS ENDERS AT AMERICAN EMBASSY DINNER GIVEN IN HONOUR OF THE VICE PRESIDENT'S WIFE.
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